



# Rockville Reports

MARCH 2016 • VOL. 62 #3

• A MONTHLY NEWSLETTER FOR THE RESIDENTS OF THE CITY OF ROCKVILLE •

## City Parks, Facilities Go Smoke-Free March 1



An expansion of the city's smoke-free area rules to include all city facilities and city parks takes effect on Tuesday, March 1.

The Mayor and Council voted in October to expand the city's smoke-free rules to include areas such as the plaza in Rockville Town Square (a city-owned park). Privately-owned outdoor restaurant dining areas adjacent to Town Square and throughout Rockville will not be affected. "No Smoking" signs have been posted in the affected areas.

Enforcement of the smoke-free area rules will be com-

plaint-driven. Complaints may be directed to Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services, the agency tasked with monitoring the county's smoke-free area rules.

The Mayor and Council's action followed a unanimous recommendation by the Recreation and Parks Advisory Board that all city parks and facilities be smoke-free.

For more, including a list of city parks and facilities that will be smoke-free, find the Oct. 19 Mayor and Council agenda at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter). ✦

## Mayor and Council Refine Priorities for Current Term

*Planning, Economic Development and School Construction Are Part of Joint Vision*

Completing the city's master plan and the Rockville Pike plan, establishing economic development incentives and advocating for school construction funding are among the priorities for the city outlined by the Mayor and Council during a Feb. 9 work session at Glenview Mansion.

During the session, the Mayor and Council refined more than 20 priorities that they first identified during a retreat in January. Among the priorities are:

- Meaningfully engaging with the county school system and the county and state government to promote school construction. *Learn more about the city's efforts to advocate for school construction funding on page 3.*
- Formulating a policy on

economic development incentives. The Mayor and Council discussed proposed economic development incentives with Rockville Economic Development, Inc. on Feb. 22. *Find the staff report and view video of the discussion at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter).*

- Receiving the Rockville Pike plan from the Planning Commission and adopting it this year. *Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillespike).*
- Completing the "Rockville 2040" master plan revision by 2018. *Learn more, including how to be involved, in the article on page 4.*
- Adopting and putting in place *continued on pg. 8...*



## Spring Forward and Check Smoke Alarms on March 13

Homeowners are reminded to use the beginning of daylight saving time on Sunday, March 13 as an opportunity to check their home's smoke alarms while they are setting clocks forward. A working smoke alarm is the best way of notifying residents of a fire.

Battery-operated smoke alarms are required to be replaced every 10 years from the date of manufacture in order to comply with a 2013 state law. The devices should also be tested at least once a month.

The state law calls for older smoke alarms to be replaced with new, sealed, long-life battery-powered smoke alarms by no later than Jan. 1, 2018, or when there is a change of tenant, test failure or a building permit is issued.

Hardwired 120-volt electric smoke alarms should be replaced every 10 years with new 120-volt smoke alarms with battery backup to ensure proper and timely operation in a fire. Homeowners with hardwired smoke alarms should not replace their devices with battery-powered alarms.

The fire code-compliant smoke alarms can be purchased at most home improvement stores.

For more information on smoke alarms, where and when they are required, and general fire safety tips for homes, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety) or email Timothy Diehl, city fire marshal, at [tdiehl@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:tdiehl@rockvillemd.gov).

## 'TERRIFIC' Kids Earn Donated Bikes

*Donations Accepted March 6; Applications Due April 8*

Rockville students in grades 1-5 can earn a free refurbished bike by doing good deeds.

The TERRIFIC Bikes program, organized by the city and the Rockville Bike Hub, is open to students in Rockville public or private schools, or those who are home-schooled.

TERRIFIC stands for Trustworthy, Earnest, Respectful, Responsible, Involved, Fair, Industrious and Caring. Students receiving bikes will display these attributes by completing six responsible acts, such as perfect school attendance for one month or volunteering at a charitable organization for an hour.

Students must have a sponsor (such as a teacher or relative) to track their progress and submit the participation form at [www.rockvillemd.gov/terrificbikes](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/terrificbikes) with a postmark no later than Friday, April 8. Bike recipients will be recognized at the Mayor and Council meeting on Monday, May 2 as part of the city's observance of



**Kids who do good deeds can earn a free bike.**

Bike Month. Bikes will be distributed on Sunday, May 15.

Donate bikes to the program by dropping them off from 11 a.m.-1 p.m. on Sunday, March 6 at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive. Or donate through the Rockville Bike Hub. Visit [www.rockvillebikehub.org](http://www.rockvillebikehub.org) or email [rockvillebikehub@gmail.com](mailto:rockvillebikehub@gmail.com) to learn more. For more information, call 240-314-8620. ✦

## Preventing Lead in Drinking Water: What Rockville Customers Should Know

Rockville's drinking water meets or exceeds all standards for safe drinking water, including standards for lead. However, it is important to understand what the city does to treat water for distribution and what city water customers can do to reduce lead in water service lines or plumbing in their homes.

Drinking water is essentially lead-free in the distribution system, before entering a home's water service line, which is owned by the property owner. While the city is responsible for providing high-quality drinking water, it cannot control the materials used in service lines and home plumbing. Lead in water is a concern primarily for those customers with lead service lines or plumbing.

The city's water treatment process helps prevent corrosion in distribution system water lines and in plumbing by making the water

less corrosive. Pipe corrosion can cause lead to leach into tap water. Such was the case in Flint, Mich., according to the American Water Works Association. Public health officials in Flint have reported increased lead levels in children, which can cause serious health problems.

Customers concerned about lead in their water may wish to have their water tested by a certified water quality laboratory. For a list of Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE)-certified labs, visit <http://ow.ly/Yp4xH>.

When a household tap has been out of use for several hours, customers can minimize the potential for lead exposure by turning on the tap for 30 seconds to two minutes. Use cold water for cooking.

Rockville performs daily and hourly tests for contaminants, *continued on pg. 7...*

## Get Into It...

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### Development Watch

*Find updates on the projects and the process that are building our city.*

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### Change for Purchasing

*A move to the City Manager's Office is just one change for the city's Purchasing Division.*

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### Getting Down to Earth

*Mark your calendar: Earth Hour is March 19. April is Earth Month.*

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### Hometown Headliners

*Maryland bands will join forces for the Hometown Holidays Music Fest.*

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## PROJECTS AND THE PROCESS

### Rockville Planning Initiatives

Learn about these long-range planning efforts by the Community Planning and Development Services Department's Long-Range Planning and Redevelopment Division at [www.rockvillemd.gov/cpds](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/cpds) or by calling 240-314-8200:

- Rockville 2040: Comprehensive Master Plan Update (ongoing): [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040).
- Rockville Pike Plan Neighborhood Plan update (ongoing): [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillepike](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvillepike).
- Southlawn Industrial Area Feasibility Study (concluded February 2016): [www.rockvillemd.gov/southlawnstudy](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/southlawnstudy).
- Study of Rockville Town Center design solutions for Montgomery County's proposed Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) system (ongoing): [www.rockvillemd.gov/brt](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/brt).

### Get Into It Again with Engage Rockville

The City of Rockville relaunched its community engagement platform, Engage Rockville, in February to continue the conversation about Rockville's future.

Engage Rockville seeks input from the Rockville community on the city's Comprehensive Master Plan update initiative known as "Rockville 2040," which seeks to set the city's vision and goals for the next 25 years. Rockville 2040 will cover a wide range of topics related to the quality of life, city services and natural setting in Rockville.

Join Engage Rockville to participate in an on-line conversation with city staff, elected officials and other Engage Rockville members. Ideas and feedback about Rockville's future will be taken into account as Rockville 2040 progresses.



**Join the conversation about Rockville's future.**

Join the conversation by visiting [www.rockvillemd.gov/engage](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/engage) to sign up for a free account. New topics will be introduced periodically. Members have the opportunity to read and comment on other members' ideas, so be sure to check back regularly.

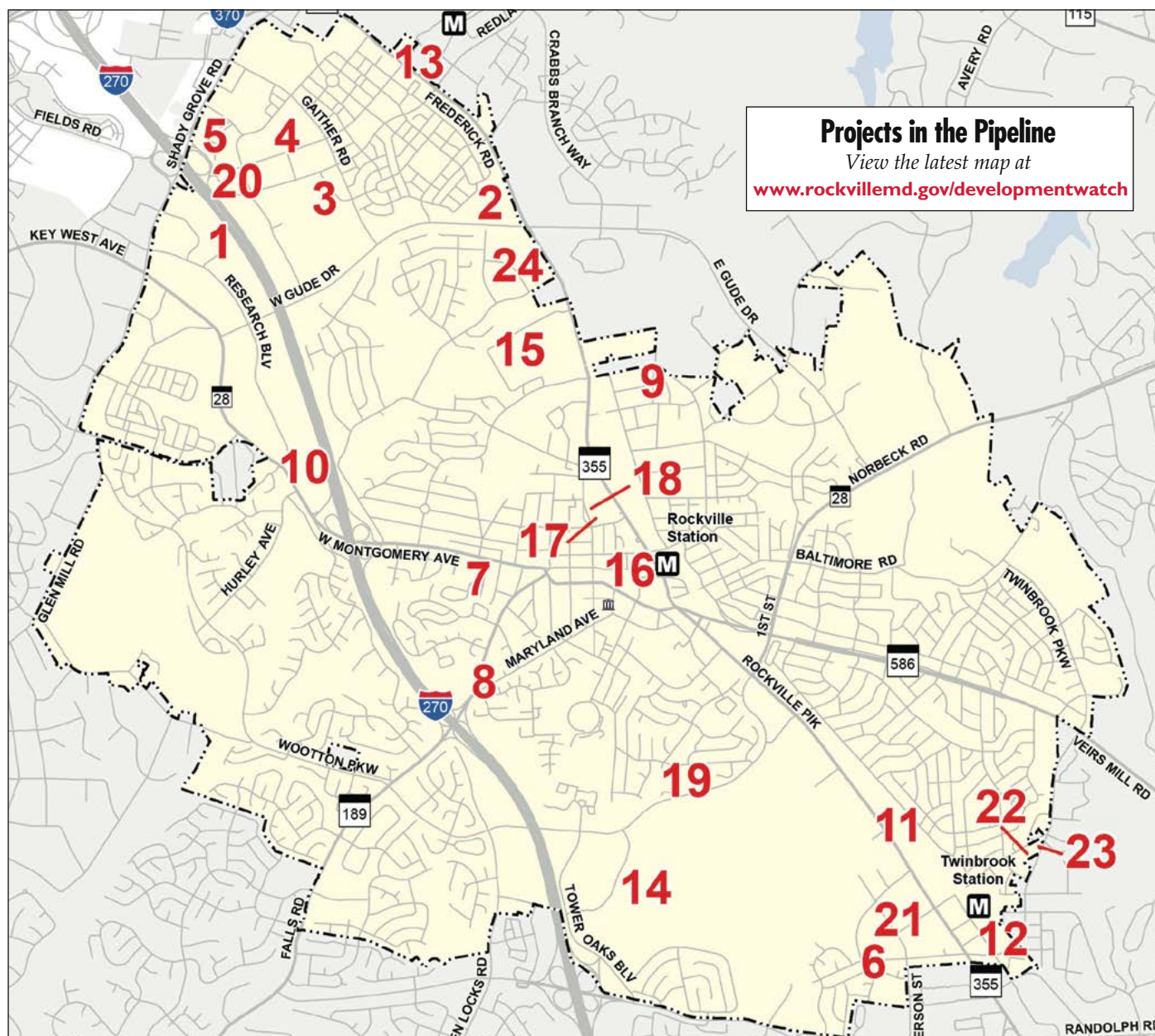
Sign up to receive Rockville 2040 email updates at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040) or by calling the Community Planning and Development Services Department at 240-314-8200.

### Know the Process, Stay Informed

The Rockville community is encouraged to take part in decisions about development projects in the city. Here are a few ways to stay informed and engaged:

- Check the latest major planning applications at [www.rockvillemd.gov/development-watch](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/development-watch) for status updates on projects in your neighborhood and throughout Rockville.
- Attend an area meeting, led by project applicants, to provide input on projects before they are considered by city boards or commissions.
- Find meeting schedules, agendas and information packets for the Mayor and Council and all city boards and commissions at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter).
- Call 240-314-8200 to inquire about projects that interest you.

# Development Watch



## Major Development Review Applications

### Recent Pre-Application Submittals

The following applications have been recently submitted to the city for pre-application review:

1. **4 Research Place:** Pre-application for a self-storage facility. Case #PAM2015-00090.
2. **15 and 45 W. Gude Drive (COPT Property):** Pre-application for a 103-unit townhouse development. Case #PAM2015-00091.
3. **520-540 Gaither Road (Redland Corporate Center):** Pre-application for a three-phase improvement/addition to an existing office park. Case #PAM2015-00092.
4. **701 King Farm Blvd. (Ingleside at King Farm):** Pre-application for a continuing care retirement community. Case #PAM2016-00089.

### Applications Under Review

The following applications are in the development review process:

5. **5 Choke Cherry Road (Upper Rock District):** Site plan application to implement PJT2014-00004 for development of 34,700 square feet of retail space on blocks B, C and D of the Upper Rock District. Case #STP2015-00238.
6. **216 Rollins Ave. (Chabad Israeli Center):** Major site plan amendment to allow for operation of a synagogue and ancillary uses within an existing building and revised days and hours of operation. Case #STP2016-00278.
7. **500 West Montgomery Ave. (Chestnut Lodge):** Project plan amendment for a proposed seven-unit townhouse development. Case #PJT2015-00005.
8. **626 and 628 Great Falls Road (Chinese Jehovah's Witnesses):** Proposed development of a new place of worship. Case #STP2012-00114.
9. **900 Westmore Ave. (Church of God Iglesia de Dios of Rockville):** Proposed demolition of an existing church, construction of a new church with additional onsite parking and pedestrian paths. Case #STP2014-00193.
10. **1401 Research Blvd.:** Level 2 site plan proposing a retail center with office. Case #STP2016-00276.
11. **1450 Rockville Pike (BMW of Rockville):** Proposed consolidation and expansion of the service facility and structured parking. Case #STP2013-00165.
12. **1900 Chapman Ave.:** Major site plan amendment (STP2012-00112) to change from 339 multi-unit residential to 70 townhouse units. Case #STP2015-00251.
13. **15931 Frederick Road:** Site plan application for a 425-unit multifamily development. Case #STP2016-00267.

14. **Tower Oaks - Preserve Parkway:** Project plan amendment to allow up to 366 residential units to replace 755,000 square feet of office under the Tower Oaks Planned Development. Case #PJT2016-00006.

### Recently Approved Applications

The following applications were recently approved and are, or may soon be, under construction:

15. **51 Mannakee St. (Montgomery College - Student Services Center):** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new student services building. Approved Aug. 12. Case #STP2016-00263.
16. **198 E. Montgomery Ave. (Duball Rockville):** Project plan application for an amendment to PDP1994-0001E to allow for the addition of 178 dwelling units to Block 2 and application of a currently approved nonresidential parking waiver to the new residential uses. Approved Dec. 8, 2014. Case #PJT2014-00003.
17. **255 North Washington St. (Rockville Town Center, LLC):** Site plan application for a proposed mixed-use building with 275 dwelling units and approximately 6,000 square feet of street level commercial. Approved Oct. 22, 2014. Case #STP2014-00214.
18. **285 North Washington St. (Brightview Rockville Town Square):** Site plan application for a 195-unit rental community for independent senior living and assisted living with street-level retail. Approved July 23, 2014. Case #STP2014-00189.
19. **332 West Edmonston Drive (Richard Montgomery Elementary School No.5):** Mandatory referral submittal for construction of a new elementary school. Approved Nov. 3. Case #STP2016-00264.
20. **900/901 King Farm Blvd. (King Farm F6/F5):** Proposed developments of 53 and 76 residential townhouses, respectively. Approved Dec. 10, 2014. Case #STP2014-00217/STP2014-00216.
21. **1626 East Jefferson St. (Crest II):** Site plan for a multifamily development. Approved Aug. 6, 2014. Case #STP2014-00196.
22. **12720 Twinbrook Parkway (Avalon Bay):** Site plan application for a proposed 240-unit multifamily residence. Approved Oct. 16. Case #STP2009-00008.
23. **12750 Twinbrook Parkway (Bright Horizons Day Care):** Site plan application for the proposed change of use from office to day care. Approved March 18. Case #STP2015-00234.
24. **15190 Frederick Road (M&T Bank):** Proposed development of a walk-in bank with drive-through. Approved May 4. Case #STP2015-00237.



# Mayor & Council



Mayor  
Bridget Donnell Newton



Councilmember  
Beryl L. Feinberg



Councilmember  
Virginia D. Onley



Councilmember  
Julie Palakovich Carr



Councilmember  
Mark Pierzchala

## Mayor and Council Continue FY 2017 Budget Work

The Mayor and Council will continue discussing their vision for Rockville's fiscal year 2017 budget with a work session and a public hearing in March.

City Manager Barbara B. Matthews is scheduled to present her proposed budget for FY 2017 on Monday, March 14, followed by a work session.

City staff provided the Mayor and Council with a revenue update and fund overview during a budget kickoff work session on Monday, Jan. 11. The Mayor and Council identified several items to consider including in the budget. The general fund budget for the current fiscal year, which ends June 30, totals \$78.1 million, and makes up over 60 percent of the city's total operating budget. About \$38.3 million of the general fund is comprised of revenue from property taxes. Matthews' proposal maintains the city's current real property tax rate of \$0.292 per \$100 of assessed valuation.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/)

### BUDGET SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE:

- **Monday, March 21:** Public hearing.
- **Monday, April 4:** Public hearing and work session.
- **Monday, April 18:** Public hearing. The public record closes on Monday, April 25.
- **Monday, May 2:** Final work session.
- **Monday, May 16 or Monday, May 23:** Budget adoption.

**budget** or call the Finance Department at 240-314-8400. To view the budget kickoff, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter) and select the television icon next to the Jan. 11 meeting listing.

Work sessions and public hearings are televised as part of Mayor and Council meetings at 7 p.m. on Mondays, are broadcast live on channel 11 on county cable systems and are available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11) via live streaming and, the day after the meeting, on demand. ✚

## Fourth Graders Can Write Their Way to Mayor's Seat; Essays Due March 31

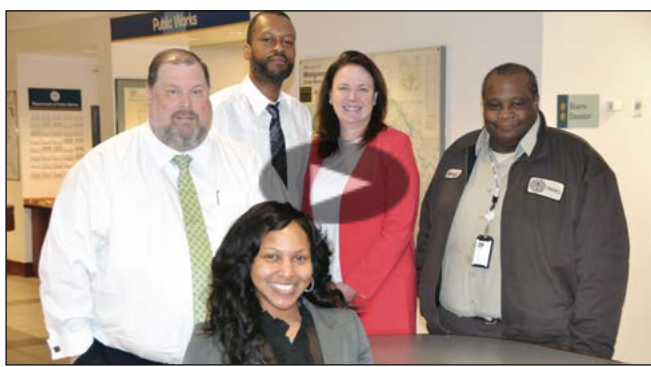
Rockville fourth graders are encouraged to participate in the statewide "If I Were Mayor" essay contest to get a chance to be the city's "Mayor for a Day" this spring.

The theme of this year's contest, organized by the Maryland Municipal League (MML) and the Maryland Mayors' Association (MMA),

is "Rising to the Challenge." Essays are due by March 31.

One winning essay will be selected from each of MML's 11 regional districts. In addition to the winners chosen by MML and MMA, the Mayor and Council will select a winner who attends school in Rockville.

Learn more by visiting [www.mdmunicipal.org](http://www.mdmunicipal.org). ✚



The city's purchasing team is implementing the action plan presented to the Mayor and Council on Feb. 1.

## Purchasing Division Joins the City Manager's Office

*Move is One of Several Changes in Action Plan Presented to Mayor and Council*

The city's Purchasing Division moved from the Finance Department to the City Manager's Office last month under changes to the city's overall purchasing operation.

The action plan, presented by City Manager Barbara B. Matthews to the Mayor and Council on Feb. 1, addresses recommendations in a Calyptus Consulting study of the city's overall purchasing operation. The plan outlines how and when recommendations in the Mayor and Council-commissioned study will be implemented and follows the recent hiring of a new purchasing manager.

"The combination of a new purchasing manager and the data and analysis provided by Calyptus Consulting offers an opportunity to transform the city's purchasing function," Matthews said. "While full implementation is a long-term project, work is underway, already yielding positive results for the

organization."

Moving the Purchasing Division to report directly to the city manager required a change to the city code, which was approved by the Mayor and Council on Feb. 1. Another one of the 29 study recommendations that has already been put in place is the assignment of a buyer to each city department to enhance communication, procurement planning and customer service. Other recommendations, to be implemented in calendar year 2016, include changes to the city's purchase card program, revisions to the city code to incorporate best practices in purchasing and updates to the city's procurement guidelines. Longer term initiatives will focus on technology improvements and the development of a strategic plan.

Find more information, including the action plan and consultant's report, at [www.rockvillemd.gov/purchasing](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/purchasing). ✚



## Important Mayor and Council Dates

Meetings are 7 p.m. at City Hall and subject to change.

- **March 7** (Monday)
- **March 14** (Monday)
- **March 21** (Monday)

Meetings are televised on Rockville 11 and available live streaming and on demand at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville11). **Drop-in sessions** are held monthly at 5:30 p.m. in the Mayor and Council office. On **March 14**, Councilmember Mark Pierzchala will join Mayor Bridget Donnell Newton. *No appointment necessary. Call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280 to confirm.*

## IN BRIEF

### Mayor and Council Set City's County-Level Priorities

*School Construction, Reimbursement for Services and Stormwater Fees Top List*

Funding for school construction, reimbursement by the county for services provided by the city, stormwater management fees and funding for a school Linkages to Learning program are the top priorities the City of Rockville will advocate for at the county level in 2016.

The priorities, approved Feb. 1 by the Mayor and Council, set a framework for promoting and protecting interests of the Rockville community when working with county elected officials and staff. They also provide guidance for the city's participation in county operating and capital budget hearings. Under the priorities approved Feb. 1, the city will advocate for:

- Funding for Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) projects at schools serving Rockville, including expansions of Twinbrook and Maryvale elementary schools and the co-location of the Carl Sandburg Learning Center at Maryvale; completion of an addition to Julius West Middle School; construction of Richard Montgomery Elementary School No. 5; and an addition to Lucy V. Barnsley Elementary.
- Fair and reasonable municipal tax duplication payment, which is intended to reimburse the cost that the county would incur to provide certain services covered by the city, such as road and bridge maintenance. Of particular concern for Rockville is that the city is not reimbursed for police services, despite handling 73 percent of the calls for service within its corporate boundaries.
- Payment of Rockville's stormwater management utility fee for county-owned property. The city is projected to lose more than \$1 million over the next two fiscal years because the county government, MCPS and Montgomery College do not pay the city's fee, despite the city providing stormwater management services to their facilities.
- Funding for the Linkages to Learning program at Maryvale Elementary School, which provides mentoring; tutoring; health, mental health and social services; and legal issue referrals. In recent years, the Maryvale program has been funded at a level well behind that of other sites and well below the cost of running the program.

For more details on these priorities, contact Linda Moran at [lmoran@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:lmoran@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8115.

### Interested in Forming a Senior Village in Your Neighborhood?

Rockville wants to help. For more information about the villages concept or to attend upcoming public meetings on the topic, contact Rockville Senior Center's Martha McClelland at 240-314-8816 or [mmclelland@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:mmclelland@rockvillemd.gov).

## Rockville Annexes Former CarMax Property, Enlarging City Limits

The Mayor and Council voted on Feb. 8 to annex a parcel of land at the southeast corner of the intersection of Frederick Road and King Farm Boulevard/Shady Grove Metro Access Road that formerly housed a CarMax auto dealership.

The annexation of the

property, at 15931 Frederick Road, will enlarge the city's corporate boundaries by 4 acres. It becomes effective 45 days after the Mayor and Council's vote, on March 24.

The property owner, 355 Partners LLC, and the contract purchaser, Frederick Road LLC, applied for the

annexation because they would like to redevelop the property. They have submitted a site plan application to build a seven-story building containing 405 multiple-unit dwellings and an associated parking structure on the site. The application is under review by city staff.

The Planning Commission is expected to review and take action on the site plan application in March.

Learn more about the annexation in the Mayor and Council's Feb. 8 meeting agenda at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter). ✚



## Get to Know the City of Rockville with the Rockville Leadership Program

Thursdays, April 7, 21 and May 5, from 7-9 p.m.  
Saturdays, April 16 and 23, from 9 a.m.-noon

Build leadership skills and learn from staff who oversee the city's daily operations.

- Participate in a mock Mayor and Council session.
- Tour recreation facilities and the water treatment plant.
- Examine the planning and development process.
- Hear from police, including discussions of code enforcement and neighborhood watch.

To register, contact Hjarman Cordero at [hcordero@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:hcordero@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8344.

## Citizens Police Academy Shows What it Takes to Be an Officer

Course Includes Looks at Crime Scene Processing and Investigations

Residents have the opportunity to go behind the badge this spring at the Rockville Citizens Police Academy. Participants 18 and older will learn about all aspects of the police department, receive hands-on training and earn a graduation certificate upon course completion.

The free course begins March 29 and will be held from 7-9 p.m. each Tuesday through May 24 at Glenview Mansion at Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Topics include:

- Crime scene processing.
- Firearms training simulations.
- K-9 unit demonstrations.
- Traffic law.
- Detectives and investigations.
- Bomb unit.

For more information and registration, email Cpl. Ken Matney at [kmatney@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:kmatney@rockvillemd.gov). For more information about the Rockville City Police Department, go to [www.rockvillemd.gov/police](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/police).

## Rockville Police Offer Off-Leash Testing

Dogs Must Be Recertified Annually to Walk Without a Leash in the City

Rockville police offer off-leash testing at 10 a.m. in the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center's outdoor pool parking lot, at 355 Martins Lane, on the following Saturdays:

- March 19.
- May 21.
- July 16.
- Sept. 17.
- Nov. 19.

Dogs must be leashed or restrained whenever they are off their owner's property, unless the owner and dog have passed the city's Off-Leash with Permission test.

The cost is \$5 per dog. Dogs must have a current Rockville dog license in order to take the two-part test.

In the first part of the test, the dog must demonstrate that it will obey several basic commands such as sit, down and stay. In the second part, the dog, with its handler, must demonstrate that it can walk in a designated area off-leash without negatively reacting to several distractions.

Dogs that pass the test may be walked without a leash in the city. Dogs and owners must be recertified each year. There is no charge for recertification.

Preregistration is required. Call 240-314-8937. For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/offleash](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/offleash).

# Neighborhood Notes



## Kudos to Public Works and Parks Crews

Rockville received nearly 30 inches of snow during the Jan. 22-24 blizzard. Crews from the city's Department of Public Works and Recreation and Parks Department worked day and night throughout the storm, and for days after, to clear snow from city streets. The city's Purchasing Division and the Rockville City Police Department supported their efforts.

## City to Host Series of 'Rockville 2040' Meetings This Spring

Community is Invited to Weigh In on Master Plan Goals and Objectives

A series of meetings in the coming months will offer community members from across the city the opportunity to answer the question: What do you want Rockville to be like in 2040?

The four meetings are a key part of "Rockville 2040," the process to update the city's Comprehensive Master Plan. The plan seeks to preserve and improve the quality of life in Rockville by guiding development and conservation and by ensuring the provision of high-quality community facilities. At the meetings, the community will develop a first draft of goals and objectives for key topics, which include land use, transportation, environment, economy, housing and historic preservation.

Meetings will be held at VisArts, 155 Gibbs St., in Rockville Town Square, at 6:30 p.m. on the following Tuesdays:

- April 19.
- May 10.
- May 24.
- June 14.

A light dinner will be



served. Participants are strongly encouraged to attend all four meetings, as each will build on the prior, and to review background materials found at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040). The materials include feedback from Rockville 2040 community listening sessions that were held over the past year and trend reports on the key topics, developed and presented by planning staff, which will be used during the upcoming meetings.

Staff requests that participants contact Ann Wallas at [awallas@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:awallas@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8200 by Thursday, March 31.

For more information, to submit comments about the planning process, to provide thoughts on Rockville's future, or to sign up to receive email updates about Rockville 2040, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockville2040). ❖

## Mayor and Council Discuss Options for BRT in Town Center

Options Would Be Considered in State Transit Study

The Mayor and Council on Feb. 8 discussed three possible bus rapid transit (BRT) options for the state to consider to integrate BRT in Rockville Town Center.

The BRT project for improving traffic mobility in Montgomery County includes planned routes along Veirs Mill Road and Maryland Route 355/Rockville Pike. Rockville contracted with a consultant team to conduct a study last year that provides concepts and options for integrating BRT in Town Center. The options include connections through the "mixing bowl" at Veirs Mill Road and MD 355 and with the Rockville Metro station.

The options that the Mayor and Council agreed to submit to the state for consideration include one with buses operating in mixed traffic, another with two dedicated BRT lanes along the median that would retain all existing lanes on MD 355, and a third that includes two dedicated BRT lanes in the median and has a tunnel to carry MD 355 through-traffic under Town Center, between Mt. Vernon

Place and Beall Avenue. The options may be considered along with others as part of the state study of the 22-mile corridor on MD 355.

Community engagement will be conducted later this year once the state provides information about possible solutions along the rest of MD 355 and other corridors. That information will give a broader view of what's being considered beyond the Town Center study area.

On Feb. 8, the Mayor and Council discussed trends in transit use, how BRT operates, where it is used, how it could work in Town Center and how BRT relates to the Metro system. They also discussed funding and the prospect of federal support for the project, the length and cost of a Town Center tunnel, pedestrian connections, and the need for open space to accommodate community events.

Find video of the discussion, staff reports and the consultant's report with the Feb. 8 agenda at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter). Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/brt](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/brt). ❖



# News You Can Use

## Save-the-Date: Earth Month in Rockville

April is Earth Month as Rockville celebrates the 46th Earth Day, on Friday, April 22. The city gets started early with a series of free activities aimed at environmental sustainability, beginning in March. Mark your calendar for these events:

**March 5: H2O Summit,** 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Learn more in the article on this page.

**March 14:** Deadline for submitting an idea for the *Storm Drain Mural Project*. Learn more in the article on page 6 or at [www.rockvillemd.gov/stormdrainmural](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/stormdrainmural).

**March 19: Earth Hour,** 8:30-9:30 p.m. Learn more in the article on this page.

**April 4:** The Mayor and Council issue a proclamation declaring *Earth Month in Rockville* and present the Environmental Excellence Awards.

**April 5: 3rd Annual Montgomery County Energy Summit,** 8:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m. in Silver Spring. Learn more at <http://www.usgbc.org/event/3rd-annual-montgomery-county-energy-summit>.

**April 9: Green Your Backyard Information Session,** 10:30-noon at Twinbrook Community

Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway. Learn about RainScapes Rewards and other city programs designed to help green your backyard and reduce pollution in this free information session. To register, call 240-314-8877 or email [rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:rainscapes@rockvillemd.gov) with your name, phone number and address.



**April 16: 28th Annual Potomac River Watershed Cleanup.** Stream cleanup sites include:

- Croydon Creek Nature Center, 852 Avery Road, from 9-noon.
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway, from 9-11 a.m.
- Maryvale Park, 812 First St., from 10 a.m.-noon.

City staff will greet volunteers. Gloves and bags will be provided. Student Service Learning hours are available. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Bring water and wear sturdy shoes. For more information, or to register, email [environment@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:environment@rockvillemd.gov) or call

240-314-8877.

**April 17: Invasive Plant Pull,** 1:30-4:30 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Work with a regional expert to pull invasive plants. Gloves will be provided. No advanced registration necessary. Children under 14 must be accompanied by an adult. Call 240-314-8770 for details.

**April 24: Science Day,** noon-5 p.m. at Montgomery College-Rockville, 51 Mannakee St. Learn why science is our future. Be sure to visit the Croydon Creek Nature Center and Environment Commission tables. Free. Find more information at [www.rockvillesciencecenter.org/rockville-science-day](http://www.rockvillesciencecenter.org/rockville-science-day) and in the article on page 8.

**April 30: Spring Festival with Native Plant Sale,** 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Croydon Creek Nature Center.

Find more details, check out tips for helping the environment year-round and learn how to bring an environmental speaker to your next community meeting at [www.rockvillemd.gov/earthmonth](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/earthmonth).

Read April's "Rockville Reports" for more about Earth Month. Learn how to get involved and live greener and healthier at [www.rockvillemd.gov/environment](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/environment). ❖



### Out Go the Lights! Rockville to Observe Earth Hour on March 19

*International Effort Supports Collective Action for Climate Change*

Rockville will turn out the lights in observance of the 10th anniversary of Earth Hour, an international effort in support of climate change action.

Earth Hour encourages people to participate by turning off all nonessential lights in their homes and businesses for one hour, from 8:30-9:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 19. The city will participate by turning off all nonessential lights at the city's Gude Maintenance Facility.

Earth Hour was first observed in Sydney, Australia in 2007 and has grown into a worldwide movement organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (known in the United States as the World Wildlife Fund). Last year, Earth Hour achieved a record with over 7,000 cities in 172 countries turning off lights in support of climate change action. Earth Hour 2016 comes just over three months since world leaders from nearly 200 countries met in Paris and crafted a global agreement to make climate change action an international priority.

The Mayor and Council are expected to issue a proclamation recognizing Earth Hour at their meeting on Monday, March 14. Find more information when the March 14 Mayor and Council agenda is available several days before the meeting at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter).

Participants in Earth Hour make a statement about how collective action – millions of small actions combined together – can have a tangible impact. Find ways to participate in Earth Hour every day at [www.earthhour.org/blog/10-ways-celebrate-earth-hour-daily](http://www.earthhour.org/blog/10-ways-celebrate-earth-hour-daily). ❖

## Spring Leaf Collection Takes Place in April

### Interactive Map Shows Dates for Neighborhoods

The city will vacuum leaves from neighborhood curbs from April 4–8 in five collection areas throughout Rockville.

Residents should rake leaves into the gutter or immediately adjacent to the pavement if no curb or gutter exists. Leaves should be raked no earlier than one week before the scheduled collection day. This avoids the accumulation of leaves near and on the streets, which can lead to fire hazards or grass damage.

To learn when your neighborhood collection will be, see the map on this page or use the interactive map at [www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/leafcollection), which allows residents to input their address to learn when leaves will be collected in their neighborhood.

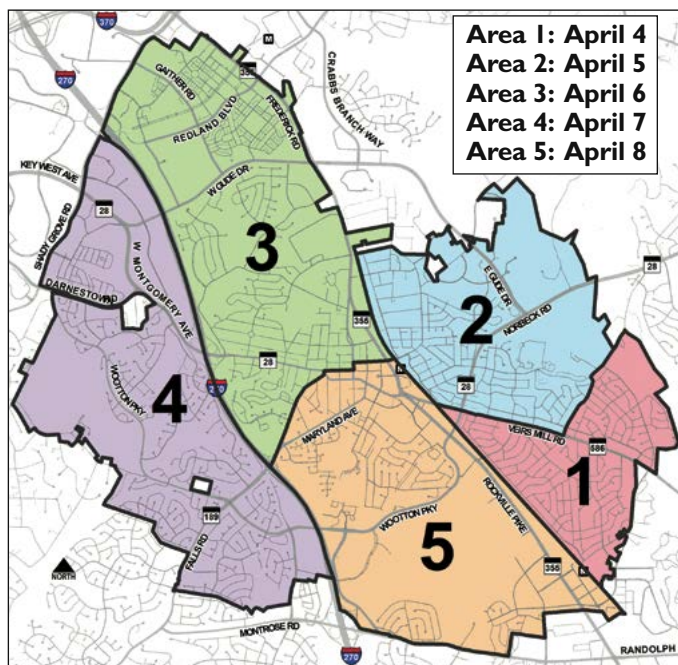
Place leaves at the curb

by 6 a.m. on the collection dates. Use plastic bags. Biodegradable paper lawn bags are acceptable.

After the collection dates,

leaves may still be set out in paper lawn bags or 32-gallon trash cans with yard waste on recycling and refuse collection day.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/recycling-refuse). ❖



## INFO. AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

### Rockville to Host County's Annual Healthy Water Summit

Learn how local watershed groups and projects in your community can make water healthier for all when the H2O Summit, Montgomery County's premier community-focused clean water event, comes to Rockville.

The summit, from 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. on Saturday, March 5 at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, will bring together local environmental leaders who are working to make the county a cleaner, greener place to live. Topics include stream valley parks, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission neighborhood infrastructure upgrades, stream restoration, green infrastructure, community-based social marketing and community grant assistance for water quality improvement projects.

Light refreshments will be provided. Learn more and register at <https://mygreenmontgomery.org/h2osummit>.

### Free Tax Preparation Help Available

The city is coordinating with the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and Montgomery County's Department of Health and Human Services to provide free tax preparation assistance to those in need of help.

Assistance is available for anyone who can't afford a tax preparation service, especially people age 50 and older, through AARP. Appointments will be held at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, on Mondays through April 11. Call 240-777-2577 to make an appointment.

Households that earned \$54,000 or less in 2015 are eligible to receive tax preparation help through Montgomery County. Appointments at sites around the county can be scheduled at [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/freetaxhelp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/freetaxhelp) or by calling the Volunteer Income Tax Assistance office at 240-777-1123.



### Police Plunge for Special Olympics

*'Rock 11 Now' Takes an Inside Look at the Chilly Dip in the Chesapeake*

A team from the Rockville City Police Department (RCPD), comprised of Sgt. Jan Seilhamer (second from left), Chief Terrance N. Treschuk (far right) and Seilhamer's son, Austin (far left), took a dip in the chilly Chesapeake Bay on Friday, Jan. 29 at Sandy Point State Park, in Annapolis, to support Special Olympics Maryland, as part of the 20th Annual Maryland State Police Polar Bear Plunge.

Find an inside look at all the frigid fun in a "Rock 11 Now" report at <https://youtu.be/zVZwqkleXcQ>. It's not too late to show support. Community members can still contribute to the RCPD plunge team by visiting <http://ow.ly/WqhrT>.

This marks the seventh year that RCPD officers participated. In that time, RCPD has raised \$25,000 for Special Olympics Maryland. The department has also sent representatives to the winter and summer games as medal presenters.





## Rockville Storm Drain Mural Project Deadline Approaches

Monday, March 14 is the deadline for artists with an interest in the environment to submit ideas for a unique opportunity to educate the public about storm drains and the impact of our collective actions.

The Rockville Storm Drain Mural Project, co-sponsored by the City of Rockville and VisArts, will use original mural designs to reflect how storm drains—and what goes into them—impact the health of local waterways and the Chesapeake Bay. Themes could include water quality, streams, rivers, the Chesapeake Bay, native plants and wildlife, or pollution.

The example above, “Evanescence,” by Chris Light, Anthony Padron and Keatyn Garton, adorns a storm drain in Springfield, Mo. The photo is courtesy of the Storm Drain Reveal, a partnership between the James River Basin Partnership and the City of Springfield (Mo.).

Find details and the application at [www.rockvillemd.gov/stormdrainmural](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/stormdrainmural) or call 240-314-8870.

## Centers Offer Spring Break Mini-Camps

Spring break doesn't have to be a break from friends or fun. Rockville's community centers will offer spring break mini-camps while Montgomery County Public Schools are on break, with programs from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. from Monday, March 28-Friday, April 1.

Children in kindergarten through fifth grade (age 5-11) will enjoy supervised programs and participate in crafts, organized games, sports and adventure. Mini-camps also include a nature center program day.

Cost is \$140 for Rockville residents and \$150 for nonresidents. Programs vary slightly by location. For more information, call 240-314-8620. Register online at [rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov](http://rockenroll.rockvillemd.gov) or in person at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., or city recreation facilities, for camps at the following locations:

- Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave. Register for course #54261.
- Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls Grove Drive. Register for course #54105.
- Twinbrook Community Recreation Center Annex, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway. Register for course #54106.

Learn more about spring recreation programs in the spring recreation guide, which is now available at [www.rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/guide) and is being mailed to all homes in the city. Registration for spring programs begins Thursday, March 10. Members of the Rockville Senior Center and the Rockville Swim and Fitness Center can register beginning Tuesday, March 8.



**Spring Recreation Guide**  
- registration begins  
Thursday, March 10

# Arts & Entertainment

## Glenview Gallery to Exhibit Student Art in March

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery's annual Student Art Show features 2-D, 3-D and video works by Rockville students in grades K-12. It opens with a free reception from 1:30-3:30 p.m. on Sunday, March 6. Artwork from students in grades 4-12 will be judged for ribbons, which will be awarded at 2 p.m. during the reception. The free show runs through Thursday, March 24.

The gallery is located in Rockville Civic Center Park,

603 Edmonston Drive. It is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m.; and Tuesday and Thursday from 9 a.m.-9 p.m. and is closed on weekends and holidays. No tickets or reservations are required for the opening reception or for visiting the gallery during normal hours.

For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/glenviewgallery) or contact Julie Farrell at 240-314-8682 or [jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov).



**“Siegel & Shuster,”**  
by Adam Walls.



**“In Harmony,”**  
by Paul Steinkoenig.

## Sculptures and Original Artwork Wanted for City Exhibitions

*Outdoor and Gallery Shows Being Planned for the Civic Center*

Artists are invited to enter original artwork for consideration for this year's Sculpture on the Grounds show in Rockville Civic Center Park and exhibitions at Glenview Mansion Art Gallery in 2017.

Sculpture on the Grounds features large-scale outdoor works as part of the city's Art in Public Places program. Each artist may submit up to three works for consideration. The annual show, which began in 1987, allows visitors to appreciate art while strolling through the picturesque park grounds surrounding the historic Glenview Mansion and F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, at 603 Edmonston Drive.

Sculpture on the Grounds applications must be postmarked by Friday, April 29. Artists will be notified of their selection status during the week of May 23. Works will be installed in

late June, with the exhibition continuing through mid-October. For more information, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/sculptureonthegrounds](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/sculptureonthegrounds) or contact Betty Wisda at [bwisda@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:bwisda@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8681.

Glenview Mansion Art Gallery hosts free monthly exhibitions featuring a wide variety of original works by artists from the Washington, D.C. metropolitan area. Entries for 2017 gallery exhibitions are due by 5 p.m. on Friday, April 1. An application can be found at [www.rockvillemd.gov/gallerycallforentries](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/gallerycallforentries). Artists will be notified of their selection status by Thursday, May 26.

For more information on the gallery, contact Julie Farrell at [jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:jfarrell@rockvillemd.gov) or 240-314-8682.

Learn more about Rockville's arts offerings at [www.rockvillemd.gov/arts](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/arts).

## Fitzgerald Theatre Welcomes Springtime Music, 'The Odyssey' and the Final Days of 'Robin Hood'

Enjoy a ballet by the Rockville Civic Ballet, a spring concert by the Rockville Concert Band, and the final days of an operatic rendition of “Robin Hood” in March at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre, 603 Edmonston Drive.

Learn more about the following shows and buy tickets at [www.rockvillemd.gov/theatretix](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/theatretix) or call the box office at 240-314-8690.



### Rockville Civic Ballet Presents 'The Odyssey'

Saturday, March 12 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, March 13 at 2 p.m.

Experience a dance interpretation of Homer's epic Greek classic.

Tickets: \$17 adult; \$13 senior and children 12 and under.

### Rockville Concert Band Presents its Spring Concert

Sunday, March 20 at 3 p.m.

Spend an afternoon listening as Rockville's own band presents a varied repertoire of instrumental music inspired by the arrival of spring.

No tickets required; \$5 suggested donation.

### Victorian Lyric Opera Company Presents 'Robin Hood'

Friday and Saturday, March 4-5 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, March 6 at 2 p.m.

In this comic opera, Robin, the Earl of Huntington, is robbed of his title by the shrewd Sheriff of Nottingham. With his band of merry men, including Friar Tuck, Allan-a-Dale and Little John, Robin takes from the rich to give to the poor until he is able to regain his title.

Tickets: \$28 adult; \$24 senior; \$20 student.

# Breakfast with The Bunny

**Saturday, March 19**  
**10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

This family event includes D's Magic Show, an egg hunt, continental breakfast, visits and pictures with The Bunny, spring crafts and games.

Preregister for course #54102 for continental breakfast  
(\$12 for Rockville residents/  
\$14 nonresidents).

Fee at the door for 11:30 a.m. magic show and egg hunt is \$5.

City of Rockville  
Get Into It

Thomas Farm Community Center  
700 Falls Grove Drive, Rockville, MD 20850  
240-314-8840  
[www.rockvillemd.gov/thomasfarm](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/thomasfarm)



## FACILITIES ADDRESSES AND PHONE NUMBERS

- Glenview Mansion Art Gallery** **GM** Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre** **FSF** Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Drive.
- Croydon Creek Nature Center** **CC** Rockville Civic Center Park, 852 Avery Road. Note: Registration is required, register at [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) or call 240-314-8770.
- Rockville Senior Center** **SR** 1150 Carnation Drive. Call 240-314-8800.
- Rockville City Hall** **CH** 111 Maryland Ave. Call 240-314-5000.



Rockville offers a variety of classes and programs each season. Find the spring rec. and Summer Camp guides at [www.rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/guide).

**1 City Parks and Facilities Go Smoke-free** See article on page 1.

**4-6 "Robin Hood," Presented by Victorian Lyric Opera Company** See article on page 6. **FSF**

**5 H2O Summit** 10 a.m.-2:30 p.m. See article on page 5. **SR**

**5,24 Nature Tots** A naturalist helps children ages 2-5 explore nature through play, crafts, stories and hikes. March 5 topic is "Frogs and Toads." March 24 topic is "Welcome Spring." Adult participation required. Preregistration recommended. 10-11:30 a.m. **CC**

**6 Glenview Mansion Art Gallery Annual Student Art Show Opening Reception and Awards** 1:30-3:30 p.m. See article on page 6. **GM**

**7,14,21,28 Mommy and Me** Emphasizes play between caregiver and child using age-appropriate equipment in the gym. Center pass or daily

membership required for caregivers. Age 4 and younger free. 10 a.m.-noon. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

**8 Rockville 2040 Listening Session** Planning Area 14/Rockshire and Fallsmead neighborhoods. Korean Presbyterian Church, 800 Hurley Ave., 7:30-9 p.m. See related article on page 4.

**12,13 "The Odyssey," Presented by the Rockville Civic Ballet.** See article on page 6. **FSF**

**13 Daylight Saving Begins** Set clocks forward and check smoke alarms. See article on page 1.

**13 Bookworms: "Little Owl Lost"** Children age 2-5, accompanied by an adult, read a new story and get a copy of the book to take home. May include a craft or hike. 1:30-2:15 p.m. **CC**

**14 Storm Drain Mural Project Deadline** See article on page 6.

**17 Lifeguard Training** 7-10:30 p.m. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center, 355 Martins Lane. See article on page 8.

**19 Off-leash Testing** 10 a.m. See article on page 4. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center outdoor pool parking lot, 355 Martins Lane.

**19 Breakfast with the Bunny** 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. See ad on page 6. Thomas Farm Community Center, 700 Falls-grove Drive.

**19 Croydon Creep Campfire: Spring Night Hike** Night-time hikes into the forest to look and listen for signs of spring begin at 7:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. Then gather around the campfire to enjoy a treat. All ages. **CC**

**19 Earth Hour** 8:30-9:30 p.m. See article on page 5.

**20 Rockville Concert Band presents its Spring Concert** 3 p.m. See article on page 6. **FSF**

# March Calendar

R = Residents • NR = Non Residents • MEM = Member • NM = Non Member

**24 Triple Treat** An afternoon of fun and fitness featuring aerobic dance, strength training, yoga poses and relaxation, and treats. **SR**

**27 Critters Up Close** A new program taking a closer look at animals that live at Croydon Creek Nature Center. Each program features a different live creature and includes a live animal interpretation and craft. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Ages 2-6. 10-10:45 a.m. **CC**

**28 Lifeguard Training** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. See article on page 8. Rockville Swim and Fitness Center.

**28-April 1 Spring Break Mini-Camp** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. See article on page 6. Lincoln Park Community Center, 357 Frederick Ave.

**28-April 1 Spring Break Mini-Camp** 9 a.m.-3 p.m. See article on page 6. Thomas Farm Community Center.

**28-April 1 Spring Break Mini-Camp** 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

See article on page 6. Twinbrook Community Recreation Center Annex, 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

**29 Citizens Police Academy Begins** 7-9 p.m. See article on page 4. **GM**

**31 "If I Were Mayor" Essay Contest Deadline** See article on page 3.

## Boards and Commissions

Meetings are held at City Hall, 111 Maryland Ave., unless otherwise noted. Find cancellations, rescheduling and contact information at [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions).

**2 Rockville Bicycle Advisory Committee** 7 p.m.

**3 Environment Commission** 7 p.m.

**8 Human Services Advisory Commission** 6:30 p.m.

**9 Cultural Arts Commission** 7 p.m.

**9,23 Planning Commission** 7 p.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

**12 Board of Appeals** 9 a.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

**15 Rockville Seniors Inc.** 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive.

**17 Senior Citizens Commission** 1 p.m. Rockville Senior Ctr.

**17 Historic District Commission** 7:30 p.m. Televised on Rockville 11.

**22 Traffic and Transportation Commission** 7:30 p.m.

**23 Human Rights Commission** 7:30 p.m.

**24 Recreation and Park Advisory Board** 7 p.m. Twinbrook Community Rec. Ctr., 12920 Twinbrook Parkway.

**30 Rockville Housing Enterprises Board of Commissioners** 6:30 p.m. David Scull Community Center, 1201 First St.

## Vacancies

The city is seeking applicants for the following boards and commissions:

- Animal Matters Board (1 alt.)
  - Board of Appeals (2)
  - Board of Supervisors of Elections (1)
  - Compensation Commission (2)
  - Financial Advisory Board (1)
  - Historic District Commission (1 reg.; 1 alt.)
  - Human Services Advisory Commission (2)
  - Landlord Tenant Affairs Commission (2 reg.; 1 alt.)
  - Planning Commission (1)
  - Rockville Housing Enterprises (2)
  - Rockville Seniors, Inc. (1)
  - Senior Citizens Comm. (3)
  - Sign Review Board (1)
- For more, visit [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions) or call the City Clerk's Office at 240-314-8280.



LEARN MORE ABOUT THE CITY ON ROCKVILLE 11  
Watch [www.youtube.com/cityofrockville](http://www.youtube.com/cityofrockville)



*We've Got Your Summer Covered!*  
**Camps • Playgrounds • Teen Activities**  
Open to all Metro area families

**Camps:** From June 20-Aug. 24, choose from a variety of options like travel, nature, science, theater and more. Swimming, field trips and special theme days included! Extended care and transportation available.

**Playgrounds:** Supervised fun in Rockville neighborhoods from June 27-Aug. 4. Extended care at two sites and field trips available. Playgrounds Sampler June 20-24.

**Teens:** Future Leaders Camp. Leaders in Training volunteer opportunity or Skateboarding Camp (registration begins Jan. 19). Preview of trips with Teens on the Go (register in spring).

Pick up your guide at City Hall, Rockville recreation centers or the Rockville or Twinbrook libraries.

View the guide at [www.rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/guide). Registration begins Jan. 19.



Follow us on Twitter @RockvilleRec.  
[www.rockvillemd.gov/camps](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/camps)  
240-314-8620

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[www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/youtube)

FOR THE MOST UP-TO-DATE EVENT LISTING, VISIT [WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV](http://WWW.ROCKVILLEMD.GOV)

## Seguridad contra incendios, prevención de plomo en el agua potable y ayuda gratuita para la preparación de impuestos

El siguiente es un resumen de algunas de las historias más importantes de esta edición de "Rockville Reports" (Informes de Rockville):  
**Programe los relojes y revise los detectores de humo el 13 de marzo**

Se recuerda a los propietarios de viviendas que aprovechen el inicio de horario de verano el domingo 13 de marzo como una oportunidad para revisar los detectores de humo de su casa, mientras adelantan sus relojes. Busque información sobre los detectores de humo, dónde y cuándo se necesitan y consejos generales de seguridad contra incendios para hogares en [www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/firesafety) o envíe un correo electrónico a Timothy Diehl, inspector de bomberos de la ciudad, a [tdiehl@rockvillemd.gov](mailto:tdiehl@rockvillemd.gov).

### Prevención de plomo en el agua potable

El agua potable de Rockville ha alcanzado o superado todos los estándares para el agua potable, incluyendo los niveles federales establecidos para el plomo en varias ocasiones. Encuentre información acerca del plomo en el agua potable, métodos de prueba, y los pasos a seguir para minimizar la exposición llamando a la línea directa de agua potable segura, 1-800-426-4791 o [www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline](http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline). Para mayor información acerca del agua potable de Rockville visite [www.rockvillemd.gov/water](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/water).

### Ayuda gratuita disponible para la preparación de impuestos

La asistencia gratuita para la preparación de impuestos está disponible para cualquier

persona que no puede pagar un servicio de preparación de impuestos, en especial las personas mayores de 50 años, a través de la Asociación Americana de Personas Jubiladas (AARP). Las citas se llevarán a cabo en el Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Clavel Drive, los lunes hasta el 11 de abril. Llamando al 240-777-2577 para hacer una cita. Los hogares que hayan tenido ingresos de \$54,000 o menos en el año 2015 son elegibles para recibir ayuda de preparación de impuestos a través del Condado de Montgomery. Visite [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/freetaxhelp](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/freetaxhelp) o llamando al 240-777-1123.

Para mayor información en español visite [www.rockvillemd.gov](http://www.rockvillemd.gov) y vaya a la casilla "Selección de idioma" en la esquina inferior derecha de la página. ❖

## Rockville Drinking Water

continued from pg. 1...

including lead. Results are reported monthly to MDE. The city uses the tests to make adjustments to the water treatment process. Any water quality violations are reported in the city's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report at [www.rockvillemd.gov/annualwaterquality2015](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/annualwaterquality2015).

The city is also required to perform more stringent testing every three years. The next round of testing will occur this year. Test results have consistently shown lead at levels below where the Environmental Protection Agency takes regulatory or remedial action.

Learn more through the Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or [www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline](http://www.epa.gov/your-drinking-water/safe-drinking-water-hotline). Learn more about Rockville's drinking water at [www.rockvillemd.gov/water](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/water). ❖





### Apply Now for a Spot in the Memorial Day Parade

Rockville's 72nd Annual Memorial Day Parade will march through Rockville Town Center with a variety of marching bands, drill and pompom units, floats and other displays at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, May 30.

Organizations or individuals interested in participating in the parade should apply by Friday, April 1. Rockville's parade is a juried event, with more than \$3,000 in cash prizes expected to be distributed over five parade categories.

Learn more about the parade and download parade rules and regulations and the parade application at [www.rockvillemd.gov/memorialdayparade](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/memorialdayparade).

### Tips for Doing Your Duty and Picking Up Pet Waste

After your dog does its "duty," please do yours. Picking up pet waste keeps our city looking great and prevents pollution of our waterways.

During a rainstorm, pet waste can be washed into storm drains that flow directly into streams, creeks and, eventually, the Chesapeake Bay. Along the way it pollutes our local waterways and harms aquatic life with high levels of nitrogen and bacteria.

Follow these tips to ensure that your pet's business doesn't become our watershed's problem:

- Reuse plastic shopping bags or newspaper sleeves to pick up pet waste.
- Tie bags to your dog's leash and store extras in the car so you're ready when nature calls.
- Always scoop and bag pet waste. Then throw it in the refuse collection.

For more information, and to take the "Scoop-the-Poop Pledge," visit <http://askhrgreen.org/scoop-the-poop/>.

### Senior Trip Registration Opens March 9

Rockville seniors can register for great road trips this spring at 10:15 a.m. on Wednesday, March 9 at the Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive. Trips organized by the center are open to center members and non-members. Travel in comfort aboard coach buses to these day trips:

- A cherry blossom lunch cruise on the Potomac River aboard the Odyssey on Wednesday, April 13.
- A tour of the William Paca House and lunch at an Annapolis restaurant on Tuesday, May 17.
- Washington Nationals baseball vs. the New York Mets on Wednesday, May 25.
- A trip to Paradise, Pa. to see the Rainbow's Comedy Playhouse production of "Perfect Wedding" and enjoy a lunch buffet on Wednesday, June 8.

Trip registration opens to nonresidents on Friday, March 11, as available. For more information about senior trips, see page 55 in the spring recreation guide at [www.rockvillemd.gov/guide](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/guide) or call 240-314-8800.

# In The Community

## Headliners are at Home in Maryland for Hometown Holidays The Nighthawks and Kelly Bell Band Team Up for Music Fest

Connect with friends, create memories and celebrate the start of summer with a Rockville tradition this Memorial Day weekend, as more than 30 local, regional and national artists and the best local food around is featured at the city's 28th annual Hometown Holidays Music Fest in Town Center.

Hometown Holidays (HTH) will feature perfor-

mances on four stages across six city blocks on Saturday, May 28 and Sunday, May 29. On Sunday night, Baltimore's Kelly Bell Band will join the original "Bad Boys of Bethesda," The Nighthawks, in the headlining slot on the Beach Stage. Other artists include returning festival favorite 8 Ohms and Rockville's Get Off My Lawn making their HTH debut.

The weekend will once again feature favorite food from local restaurants at the Taste of Rockville, as well as kids amusements, the return of "the beach" sand pile and the 72nd Annual Memorial Day Ceremony and Parade on Monday, May 30.

The festival is just a five-minute walk from the Rockville Metro station. Festival-goers who drive or

bike or can find a map of Town Center public parking options at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvilleparking.com](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rockvilleparking.com).

Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/hometownholidays](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/hometownholidays) or at "City of Rockville Hometown Holidays" on Facebook, where a new musical act will be revealed each week on "#MusicMonday." ❖

## Save the Date: Rockville Science Day is April 24

Bring the family to the 27th annual Rockville Science Day from noon-5 p.m. on Sunday, April 24 at Montgomery College – Rockville, 51 Mannakee St.

Science Day offers a chance to experience science hands-on with exhibits from over 90 local organization and businesses, featuring snakes to birds, robots to rockets, and chemistry demos to biology games. For more information, visit <http://rockvillesciencecenter.org/rockville-science-day>.

Rockville Science Center (RSC) events in March include a "Science Tuesday" at 1 p.m. on March 8 at the Rockville Senior Center, discussing "All You Need

to Know About Life on Earth," and the popular Rockville Science Café presenting "Myth-busting Dietary Supplements" at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, March 15 at Branded '72, 387 E. Gude Drive. Learn more at <http://rockvillesciencecenter.org/events/2016-03/>.

RSC recently released a vision statement – at <http://rockvillesciencecenter.org/imagine-our-future> – that is the culmination of months of community brainstorming, site visits and planning for a brick-and-mortar Science Center. RSC is a nonprofit supported by the generous donations of its members and sponsors. Visit <http://rockvillesciencecenter.org/support> to learn more. ❖

## Mayor and Council Refine Priorities

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a "Vision Zero" program for decreasing bike and pedestrian injuries and fatalities. Learn more about biking and walking in Rockville at [www.rockvillemd.gov/transportation](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/transportation).

- Reviewing the city's boards and commissions, including their scope and role and how they are created, appointed and sunset. Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/boardscommissions).
- Increasing outreach to diverse communities. Learn more about Rockville's demographics at [www.rockvillemd.gov/cpds](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/cpds).
- Developing an open data initiative that increases the ease in accessing public information. Explore the city's geographic information system open data at [www.rockvillemd.gov/gis](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/gis).
- Developing a multiyear plan to carry out recom-

mendations of the Senior Services Study, a report on which is expected April 18. Learn more about the study at [www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorstudy](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/seniorstudy).

- Modifying city policy to increase housing for all income levels in new development. Learn about the city's moderately priced dwelling unit program at [www.rockvillemd.gov/mpdu](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/mpdu).
- Establishing a task force to find a dynamic use for the King Farm Farmstead that contributes to the community. Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/kingfarmfarmstead](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/kingfarmfarmstead) and in the Feb. 29 agenda at [www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/AgendaCenter).

The priorities are framed within "critical success factors" that describe what Rockville will look like when the Mayor and Council achieve their shared vision for the community. Full descriptions of these factors can be found at [www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10403](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/10403). ❖



**A FLOWING DEDICATION AT ROCKVILLE SWIM AND FITNESS CENTER...** State and county elected officials joined the Mayor and Council on Saturday, Feb. 13 for a dedication of the renovated indoor South Pool. The project replaced the pool deck and its heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, and updated the aesthetics of the pool area. Learn more at [www.rockvillemd.gov/rscrenovations](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/rscrenovations).

## Train for a Job at the Swim and Fitness Center

The Rockville Swim and Fitness Center offers life-guard training this spring as it gears up for the summer swim season.

The center offers an American Red Cross life-guard training course from Monday, March 28-Friday, April 1, during Montgomery County Public Schools spring break. Register for course #53574 at [rockenroll.rockville](http://rockenroll.rockville)

[md.gov](http://md.gov). Participants must be 15 years old to take the course. Other courses are offered March 17-May 12 (course #53575) and April 23-May 1 (course #53576). Recertification courses are offered March 19-20, April 9-10 and May 7-8.

Find details, schedules and registration forms at [www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6477](http://www.rockvillemd.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6477). ❖



Get Into It

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